

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 8 January 2004 (08.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/003506 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: G01V 8/00, 9/00, G01J 3/32

G01N 21/00,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2003/020116

(22) International Filing Date: 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 60/391,430

26 June 2002 (26.06.2002) US

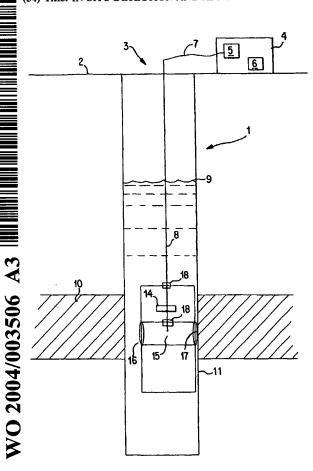
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WELL-DOG, INC. [US/US]; Annex Suite 113, 365 N. Ninth Street, Laramie, WY 82072 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): POPE, John, M. [US/US]; 1166 North 11th Street, Laramie, WY 82072

(US). COX, Rick, L. [US/US]; 2353 Sweetwater Drive, Laramie, WY 82070 (US). VAN LIEU, Neil, R. [US/US]; 1325 Silk Oak Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525 (US). BUTTRY, Daniel, A. [US/US]; 1305 East Custer, Laramie, WY 82070 (US).

- (74) Agent: ACKERMAN, William G.; CROWELL & MOR-ING, LLP., Intellectual Property Group, P.O. Box 14300, Washington, DC 20044-4300 (US).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IN-SITU DETECTION AND ANALYSIS OF COAL BED METHANE FORMATIONS



(57) Abstract: A measuring system for in-situ measurements down a well by a spectrometer (4) is provided. The spectrometer (4) includes a radiation source (5) and a detector (6). A probe is optically connected to the spectrometer (4) and includes an optical pathway (7) for transmission of a radiation from the radiation source (5) and at least a second optical pathway for transmission of a characteristic radiation from a sample to the detector (6). A positioner is provided to position the probe near a side surface (11) of the borehole (3) and to optically couple the optical pathways to the side surface (11), where the probe is traversable up and down the well by way of a guide operatively connected to the probe and to a fixed location at the wellhead. By use of the apparautus and method a concentration of methane or other substance of interest is obtained, and thereby, a potential production of a coal bed methane formation is obtained.

Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 21 May 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/20116

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(7) : G01N 21/00; G01V 8/00, 9/00; G01J 3/32			
US CT. : 356/241.1. 241.3. 241.4. 241.5. 241.6; 250/269.1			
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC			
B. FIELDS SEARCHED			
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S.: 356/241.1, 241.3, 241.4, 241.5, 241.6; 250/269.1			
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched			
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EAST			
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages		Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,388,251 B1 (PAPANYAN) 14 May 2002, see entire document.		1-17
Y	US 4,994,671 A (SAFINYA et al) 19 February 1991, see entire document.		1-17
Y	US 4,490,845 A (STEINBRUEGGE et al) 25 December 1984, see entire document.		1-17
Y	US 3,859,851 A (URBANOSKY) 14 January 1975, see entire document.		1-17
Y	US 2,334,475 A (CLAUDET) 16 November 1943, see entire document.		1-17
	<u> </u>		
	1		
	· ·		
	†		į.
Į.	ł		
	1		
1			<u> </u>
Burthe	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.	
Special extraories of cited documents:			ternational filing date or priority
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be		date and not in conflict with the appli principle or theory underlying the in	ication but cited to understand the
of particular relevance		"X" document of particular relevance; the	claimed invention cannot be
1	application or patent published on or after the international filing date	considered novel or cannot be considered when the document is taken alone	ered to involve an inventive step
"L" documen	nt which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as	"Y" document of particular relevance; the	claimed invention cannot be
specified)		considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art	
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means			
*P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		*&* document member of the same patent family	
Date of the actual completion of the international search		Date of mailing of the international search report 25 MAR 2004 Authorized officer Frank G. Font Telephone No. 703-305-0530	
	2003 (19.10.2003)	Authorized officer	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US		Diami) 1	
Commissioner for Patents		Frank G. Font	mur,
P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450		Telephone No. 703-305-0530	1
Alexandra, Virginia 22313-1430			/

Facsimile No. (703)305-3230
Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1998)